



May 26, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

On behalf of the restaurant and foodservice industry, which employs over 15 million workers, we are writing to support H.R. 7010, the *Paycheck Protection and Flexibility Act*, sponsored by Congressmen Dean Phillips and Chip Roy. We urge both parties to vote for this important piece of bipartisan legislation when it is considered on the House floor this week. Our nation's restaurants appreciate your commitment to address the devastating economic consequences of the coronavirus pandemic.

Our employee base is the most diverse and representative of any, and we are proud that one in every ten workers is in our industry. But this sector is facing its greatest challenge ever, having lost more jobs and revenue than any other industry as a result of the pandemic. The ripple effect of our struggles will affect our farmers, suppliers, and communities that rely on the health of the restaurant industry

When the CARES Act created the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), many small businesses were eager to participate due to a dire need for liquidity and the likelihood of loan forgiveness. Unfortunately, the PPP has become unworkable for many restaurants due to extended government closures, a prolonged recovery process and severely diminished capacity. As a result, the industry needs critical changes to the PPP program.

The *Paycheck Protection Flexibility Act* legislation provides crucial fixes to the PPP that reflect the uncertainty of evolving government responses, a massive rehiring effort for the nation's second-largest private employer and the ongoing economic challenges for small businesses. Restaurants want to bring back our employees to the industry they love, so we can continue serving our neighbors and communities.

The PPP must be improved in a bipartisan way to reflect both the national economic changes since late March and the slower path to recovery for the restaurant and hospitality industry. These timely changes will provide a critical bridge to help small businesses and the broader economy.

Thank you for your leadership during this critical time.

Sincerely,

National Restaurant Association



Alabama Restaurant & Hospitality Association
Alaska Cabaret, Hotel, Restaurant & Retailers Association
Arizona Restaurant Association
Arkansas Hospitality Association
California Restaurant Association
Colorado Restaurant Association
Connecticut Restaurant Association
Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington
Delaware Restaurant Association
Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association
Georgia Restaurant Association
Hawaii Restaurant Association
Idaho Lodging & Restaurant Association
Illinois Restaurant Association
Indiana Restaurant & Lodging Association
Iowa Restaurant Association
Kansas Restaurant & Hospitality Association
Kentucky Restaurant Association
Louisiana Restaurant Association
Hospitality Maine
Restaurant Association of Maryland
Massachusetts Restaurant Association
Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association
Minnesota Restaurant Association
Mississippi Hospitality & Restaurant Association
Missouri Restaurant Association
Montana Retail Association
Nebraska Restaurant Association
Nevada Restaurant Association
New Hampshire Lodging & Restaurant Association
New Jersey Restaurant & Hospitality Association
New Mexico Restaurant Association
New York State Restaurant Association
North Carolina Restaurant & Lodging Association
North Dakota Hospitality Association
Ohio Restaurant Association
Oklahoma Restaurant Association
Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association
Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association
Puerto Rico Restaurant Association
Rhode Island Hospitality Association
South Carolina Restaurant & Lodging Association
South Dakota Retailers Association
Hospitality Tennessee
Texas Restaurant Association
Utah Restaurant Association

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2055 L Street NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20036 | (202) 331-5900 | (800) 424-5156



Vermont Chamber of Commerce
Virginia Restaurant, Lodging & Travel Association
Washington Hospitality Association
West Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association
Wisconsin Restaurant Association
Wyoming Lodging & Restaurant Association

CC: The Honorable Steny Hoyer
The Honorable James Clyburn
The Honorable Steve Scalise
The Honorable Liz Cheney
The Honorable Nydia Velázquez
The Honorable Steve Chabot
The Honorable Richard Neal
The Honorable Kevin Brady